91. Needs of the Kunnathur taluk.

MR. C. T. GEEVARGHESE MUTALALI (*Member, Kunnathur taluk*) said that Adur was now in the jurisdiction of the Stationary Magistrate, Kottarakara. The shortest distance between Adur and Kottarakara was 8 miles and the longest distance 25 miles. Moreover, Adur was the meeting place of two important roads viz., the Main Central Road, and the Kayancolam-Punalur road. In view of the importance of the place and its distance from Kottarakara, a Magistrate's court should be sanctioned there or the Tahsildar, Kunnathur, should be invested with magisterial powers.

Secondly, the member referred to irrigation and said that many of the irrigation tanks and canals in the taluk had either been encroached upon by the people or registered away by Government for cultivation. Agriculture in the taluk was now suffering much for want of water. The existing tanks should therefore be repaired and those registered away should be acquired from the parties and restored as far as possible. It would be well to appoint a local committee to look into the matter. They could work under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. The more important among the tanks were Parakottu Chantakulam, Cutcherykulam, Puthiakavil-chira, and Pulikathal-chira. These should be repaired as also the embankment in the Valiathodu.

In regard to communications, the member urged for the removal of the subsidiary toll-gates at Adur. A poor cartman had to pay at least one fanam a day at these toll-gates. This was very hard.

The following roads should be maintained by Government :—

(1) The road from the Adoor-Sastancotta road, 4th mile, to the Kayancolam-Punalur road 13th mile.

(2) Kalangurpadam road.

(3) Chandanapalli-Kalangur road.

The Enadi-Ezhamkulam road should be made fit for cart traffic.

In regard to education, the member urged for the raising of the Adur V. M. School into a higher grade school and for the conversion of the Kalangur incomplete vernacular school into a complete school.

In conclusion, the member said that the police outpost at Sastancotta should be converted into a charging station under an Inspector.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Geevarghese Mutalali, you brought up the same question at the 20th session. You will remember that the Government have sanctioned an estimate for the Puthiakavil chira and work will be taken up, I think the Chief Engineer considers, next year. All these minor irrigation questions are now being considered afresh.

In regard to the construction of embankments in the Valia todu, it is also regarded as a minor irrigation project and a notice has been published in the Gazette inviting objections to the construction of the embankments proposed. After the time fixed is over, the Chief Engineer's final report will be awaited and sanctioned in due course.

There are not sufficient irrigation works in the taluk to warrant the appointment of an irrigation board there.

MEMBER : Irrigation works could be properly attended to if there was an irrigation board under the Director of Agriculture.

DEWAN : A representation has already been made to that effect.

MEMBER : The chira in question has not been repaired yet, though the proposal was made four years ago.

DEWAN : That question will be considered separately in another representation.

I shall consult the Chief Engineer whether he can find a suitable place for the toll gate now at Adur. In regard to the vehicles of the inhabitants it is always possible by the rules to pay compounding fees. What is applicable to municipal toll gates, is not applicable to the toll gates on the highway.

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In regard to the maintenance of the Chandanapalli-Kudali road, three miles of the road are already under departmental maintenance. As regards the remaining portion, the road will run through reserve forests and the forests have to be disafforested. Then the people will have to cut the road under the Ryots'Roads Rules. Until then, it is not possible.

As regards the conversion of the Enadi-Ezhamkulam road the Chief Engineer has examined the question and he does not consider that it is sufficient to take precedence over very many other works which are of an urgent character. In any case, it is only a short cut as compared with the M. C. road.

In regard to the completion of the Kalangurpadam road and the road from the Adur-Sastancotta road, these two roads were proposed in the last session too. As regards the first road, it is now being partially improved by the P. W. D and a bridge has been put up at the first mile. With the maintenance grant it will be gradually improved year by year.

In regard to the second road, the Chief Engineer has ordered an investigation.

In regard to the conversion of the Vernacular Middle School into a Higher Grade School it had been referred by the Director of Public Instruction for remarks to the officers concerned. The report has not been received, until the present moment. So too with the other question of vernacular school.

As regards the Police station, the Commissioner thinks that Chavara is the most suitable centre.

In regard to the question of the Magistrate's court at Adur, I do not see the position has in any way altered since I gave my reply last year.

92. Needs of the Kartikapalli taluk.

Mr. K. NARAYANA PANICKER (*Member, Kartikapalli taluk*) spoke on the following needs of the Kartikapalli taluk :—

(*a*) Kartikapalli-Kayancolam road. This road ran from the Kartikapally bazaar *via* Muthukulam and Kirikad to Kayancolam. It was full of ruts and pits and was unfit for pedestrian or cart traffic. It should be metalled and made serviceable.

(*b*) Haripad-Ilanjimel road. This road ran from Haripad *via* Pallipad and Chennitala and joined the Mavelikara-Chengannur road at Elanjimel. It was in a very bad condition. Indeed at some places, even traces of the road could not be seen. The road should be opened fully and metalled.

(*c*) Danapadi canal. A big amount was being spent by Government every year for the maintenance of this canal. But these amounts were being wasted practically, as the sands on either side of the canal silted it up. This recurring expenditure could however be saved if the banks on either side of the canal were strengthened by masonry work.

(*d*) Haripad dispensary. The dispensary was now housed in a rented building. A site had been acquired by Government for putting up a good dispensary. But the Medical Board had dropped the idea of having a new building. The rented building was quite insufficient to meet the needs of the people. A new building should therefore be put up on the land which Government had acquired for the purpose.

(*e*) A Magistrate's court at Haripad. There was formerly a Magistrate's court at Haripad. All the pakuthies of the Kartikapalli taluk except two or three were under the jurisdiction of this court. But now these pakuthies were placed under the jurisdiction of the Magistrate's court, Kayancolam. The distance from the northern pakuthies of Kartikapalli to Kayancolam was 16 miles. The poor clients had to walk all these sixteen miles for reaching the court at Kayancolam. Nor did the Bench Magistrate's court at Haripad offer any relief. That court could deal only with petty cases. If a new Magistrate's court was sanctioned at Haripad, there would be enough work for that court. That could be seen from the statistics of the cases filed in the Kayancolam Magistrate's court. If a new court could for any reason be not sanctioned, the Tahsildar, Kartikapalli, might be invested with magisterial powers.

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